



Weekly News

Village Minutes

To view the most recent village board meeting minutes, please go to <http://www.tremontil.com/tremont-board-of-trustees.php>

Tremont Betterment Association Disbursement Form

If you are a local organization wishing to request money from the TBA, please [click here](#) to view and fill out a form.

Summer Rec Baseball & Softball Registrations

Register online at www.tremontpark.org or stop in the office during staffed hours. Registration forms will also be available in the vestibule and can be left in the drop box along with payment. Flyers were also sent home with school age children.



Tazewell County Underground Railroad Project

The public is invited to the first in a series of Underground Railroad Recognition Events in Tazewell County. According to Tazewell County Clerk John Ackerman, "The purpose of this series of ... events is to properly recognize the work of these individuals, bring public awareness to the existence of the nationally celebrated Underground Railroad in Tazewell County, and most importantly to add a permanent marker at the gravesites of these individuals for future generations indicating their involvement as a Underground Railroad Coordinator. It is our hope these efforts here in Tazewell County will be copied in the future by counties throughout Illinois and beyond."

The first event will be held on March 9 at 4PM at the Hirstein Cemetery in Morton. The second of the series will be in Tremont to honor our four known Underground Railroad leaders, date TBA. These events will be outdoors, with plenty of room for masked social distancing.

The series is sponsored by The Tazewell County Genealogical and Historical Society, NAACP Peoria Branch, Morton Township Board and Tazewell County Clerk, John Ackerman.

Did you know...?

Captain Wibray of Tremont Part 1

To say there once was an accomplished sea captain among our earliest residents at first sounds crazy. Here, in the middle of the prairie? But it is good to recall that many of our earliest settlers came here from the east coast.

Our sea captain has an interesting story in which, at one point, he was a hero:

Captain James Wibray was born in England in 1786 and spent his childhood in London, dreaming of going to sea. As a teen, he signed on as a cabin boy on a tall sailing ship. Over the years, he learned the ropes and became an experienced seaman. Then, in 1812, there was a huge earthquake in Venezuela and 10,000 people died in Caracas alone. The fledgling United States sent its first foreign disaster mission to help. Wibray was on a ship that carried provisions and food to the devastated people. Later, he became co-owner of his own ship, Brig Charles. The shipping trade really accelerated after the War of 1812.

By this time, Wibray and his wife and young children lived in New York City. By the early 1820s, he was Commander of the Brig Reindeer, taking month long trips across the Atlantic to bring passengers to America by way of the port of New York. Eventually, he became a shipmaster on a series of packet ships, medium-sized ships which transported mail, freight, and first-class passengers. The trips were shorter, only about 18 days, but very dangerous. His run required an extremely skilled pilot, as it was through perilous waters from New York to New Orleans.

His November 1834 trip was a fateful one. He was leaving New York Harbor. At that time, a small "pilot" ship would come out to guide the ships through the rocks and shoals that made navigating so difficult. This time, however, when the pilot ship arrived, it was apparent that the pilot was drunk, and as a result, Wibray's ship became grounded on a rocky reef. The ship was taking on water in a strong gale. The passengers were terrified that the ship would break up, taking them with it. According to Helen Wibray Witherspoon, his great granddaughter who wrote about the incident about 100 years later, Wibray, "...seized the pilot, had him put in irons below deck, and took the wheel. He managed to free the vessel from the rocks and to take it safely into the harbor."

In gratitude, the passengers presented the captain with a large, elaborate sterling silver coffee service engraved:

Presented to Captain James Wibray by the cabin passengers of the packet ship New Jersey under his command, in testimony of their personal esteem for regard and high consideration of his skill and indefatigable exertion in rescuing his ship from the perilous situation in which she was placed while in charge of the pilot on the 16th of November, 1834.

This unusual gift became a family heirloom cherished long after James Wibray had passed. But...there is much more to the story of Wibray and of the sterling silver coffee service, as well.
(To be continued next week.)

Information was obtained from *Captain Wibray's Family in America*, compiled by Elizabeth Doremus, his great great granddaughter.

~ Tremont Museum and Historical Society



Reserve the Library Meeting Room for Individual Use

Need some quiet time outside of your house? The library is opening up the meeting room for individual reservations. It's a great place to study, read, listen to music, or attend an online class or meeting.

At this time, the meeting room is for individual use only. Only one teen/adult at a time and no groups. (However, there is an exception for childcare. If you are caring for children from your own household, they may join you in the meeting room-- it's a great place for read-alouds!)

Times available:

- 10-12pm, 2:30-4:30pm, 5-7pm during weekdays, and 10-12pm during the weekends.
- One reservation is allowed per day, and two per week. Call 309-925-5432 to reserve a time.

In the Loop Crochet Club

Thursdays, March 11 - May 20 -- 3-4PM

All ages welcome. We have room for more crafters in our crochet club! This program is now open to all ages, yes, that's adults too. Learn more about In the Loop and find the Zoom link:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/398151324827050/>

Adult/Teen Take-Home Craft

Spots are filling up fast! Register for our other adult/teen crafts by calling or e-mailing the library

- April 1st: Confetti KnickKnack Tray
- May 6th: DIY Clipboard with Mod Podge

To Be Continued...

A read-aloud book club for ages 7+. This season we'll be reading *The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street* by Katrina Yan Glaser. We will meet over Zoom on Tuesdays 3-4PM, each week March 2nd – April 20th. Call 925-5432, email tremontlibrary.childrens@gmail.com, or register in person to receive Zoom invites.

Make-It Monday

S.T.E.A.M. related crafts and videos on the first Monday of each month. Want a Maker-Kit? Call the library (925-5432), email tremontlibrary.childrens@gmail.com, or visit us in person to reserve yours today!

Past craft kits are available while supplies last.

- April 5th – Magnets
- May 3rd – Density

Virtual Story Hour Room

All new! This season Story Hour is being offered through virtual Story Hour Rooms. These rooms include links to read-aloud videos, rhymes, craft tutorials, and other fun resources for your preschooler. New rooms will be released every other Thursday through May 20th along with craft kits. To access Story Hour Rooms, please join our Virtual Read-Aloud Facebook group or email tremontlibrary.childrens@gmail.com to receive links.

Fine Art Friday (Age: 7+)

Dates: March 26, & April 30

Explore new mediums and new artists with this spring's Fine Art Friday series. Use materials from home or register in advance for an Art Box. If you registered in fall, this is a new session: please register again.

- March: Sculptures
- April: Mosaics

Tremont Fire & Rescue Recruiting

Emergency Services in Tremont continues to grow in the response needs for our community, the Tremont School District and those who pass through it. Recent responses to the COVID19 Pandemic have proven demanding with our current participating membership levels. The need to bring on additional qualified and capable individuals is ever increasing. With that said, Tremont Fire Department and Tremont Rescue are seeking 'NEW' recruits.

We are looking for individuals with strong character, good work ethic, commitment to community, and a heart to serve others above self. The minimum age requirement for a recruit is 18 years of age. There are also residency requirements for anyone interested, due to the need for expedited responses to emergent situations.

If you have any interest please visit the following website(s) for more information:

www.tremontfire.com/recruiting
www.tremontrescue.com/recruiting



Notice of Public Hearing - Annexation Agreement

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, March 15, 2021, at 6:45 P.M., a public hearing will be held by the Village of Tremont Village Board at the Tremont Community Center, located at 216 S. Sampson Street in Tremont, Illinois, for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony regarding a proposed Annexation Agreement between the Village of Tremont, Illinois and GT Services of Illinois, Inc. The proposed agreement calls for the annexation of certain property commonly known as 22387 Old Route 9, Tremont IL 61568.

To view the notice of public hearing, [click here](#).

Monday

Jazz Coffee House (sold out)

Tuesday

MS 7th grade VB Regionals @ Germantown Hills - 4:15PM (If they win on 3/6)

Thursday

MS 7th grade MS Regional Championship game TBD

Friday

MS 8th grade VB Regional game home vs Beverly Manor - 4:15PM

Around Town



Please send us your news stories and they will be included in upcoming emails. Deadline to include information is Friday, 6:00PM for the following Monday.

We accept information from official Tremont, IL businesses, organizations, and advertisers. We will also post Public Auctions and Open Houses.

Thank you,

Haas IT Solutions, Inc. on behalf of Tremont Winning Communities

Tremont Winning Communities | info@tremontil.com | <http://tremontil.com>